

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of The
New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Commission
January 20, 2015**

The regular meeting of the New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at One Penn Plaza East, 9th Floor, Newark, NJ 07105.

Commissioner Dacey called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM.

Open Public Meeting Statement

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioner Timothy J. Dacey (present); Commissioner Brian McEwing (present); Commissioner Jacob Shisha (present); Commissioner Charles E. Stapleton (absent); Commissioner Charles Wowkanech (absent).

Commissioner Dacey welcomed new Commissioner Jacob Shisha.

Commissioner Shisha introduced himself and gave a summary of his background. He stated his excitement in joining the Commission and looks forward to getting to know the pilots.

Approval of the December 13, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Shisha to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2014 Special meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

Approval of the December 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Shisha to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014 meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

Resolution #15-01 to approve the January 2015 Treasures Report

A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Shisha to pass Resolution #15-01 to approve the January 2015 Treasures Report. All voted in favor.

Executive Director Report

Ms. Stuckey met with the Occurrence Investigators on January 6, 2015 to complete paperwork and issue credentials. It was a very successful meeting. She discussed protocol, schedules, and how reports are to be completed. The team will receive laptops, tape recorders, portfolios, and a uniform with our logo, so that they can do their job efficiently.

A copy of the logo is included in today's meeting materials. Ms. Stuckey also ordered name tags and soft shell jackets for the Commissioners to wear on Harbor tours. Ms. Stuckey thanked Ms. Montilus for her hard work in ordering the uniforms and designing the logo.

Each of the investigators were assigned two cases from the Commission's backlog to complete. One of the completed reports is on today's agenda.

They also met with the Coast Guard's Investigative team and toured VTS. The meeting went very well and the Coast Guard expressed their pleasure at seeing the two "Teams" come together. They are looking forward to working with our investigators. Lt. Commander Bill Grossman's replacement Donna Leoce expressed her desire to continue to work with the Commission and to keep the same lines of communication.

The Coast Guard also asked for the Commission's assistance in enforcing fines on vessels that continually provide the wrong air draft or that continually experience mechanical problems that are not addressed. Ms. Stuckey consulted with counsel and was advised that the Commission should address this issue on a case by case basis. DAG Schwartz will work with Ms. Stuckey to draft a strongly worded letter to the offenders in aide of the Coast Guards case.

Commissioner Richard Hobbe, the president of the New York Commission, will retire effective January 31, 2015. Commissioner Jim Mercante will become the new President. No word yet on who their new Commissioner will be.

Ms. Stuckey attended a meeting on the update of the AK-4/Goethals Bridge project. Per her June 2014 Executive Director's report, the projects were to take place simultaneously and there were concerns over their effect on

marine traffic. Since then the plans have changed and the impact on marine traffic will be minimal, and not really an issue until 2016.

The dredges will be move on the demand and the dredge zone will be "no meeting/no passing" for any vessel over 600 feet. A portion of the channel will be roped off using articulated buoys for the move on demand dredgers. The most important update is that it has been decided that the bridge bed will be bought in via truck as opposed to barges as initially planned. The new plan to transport them in via truck and have them lowered will free up space in the channel.

The first of the road segments for the Bayonne Bridge was scheduled to be put into place early last week. The project is still on track for completion in early Feb/March of 2016. The Army Core is hoping to get navigational clearance by September 2016. The Coast Guard published speed restrictions in the New Jersey register to become effective February 15, 2015. Because the drill shaft is complete the speed restrictions are no longer needed. They have advised that they will not be enforced. The pilots requested that they submit something in writing advising the pilots of this fact. The last phase of the project is the demolishment of the current bridge. They are currently in the process of looking for the most feasible and economic way to accomplish this. Until a method is determined we will not know the impact it will have on marine traffic.

Ms. Stuckey provided the Commissioners with a copy of the Docking Pilot Apprenticeship ad that has been published on the Commission's website, the Professional Mariner and Workboat Magazines. The ad will hit the street the last week in February with a deadline of April 15, 2015 for submissions. Ms. Stuckey has scheduled a meeting with the Committee to review the applications and dates for interviews immediately following the Commission's April 21, 2015 board meeting.

Captain Flannery, Captain Schoenlank, and Captain Walsh met with IMTT representatives to discuss the new terminal 9T which is a conversion of the old Coastal Bayonne Barge Dock. The first vessel entered the new terminal the weekend of January 3, 2015. They have put out an APB to pilots asking for their feedback. A chart of the terminal along with information on the study performed by Ocean and Coastal Consultants was included in the Commissioner's folders. Ms. Stuckey asked Captain Flannery and Captain Schoenlank to elaborate on any additional information.

Ms. Stuckey circulated a letter from Commissioner Richard Hobbe thanking the Commission for their willingness to help the NY Commission's personnel issues as they struggle to make sure the Hudson River is manned. The River has been extremely busy. Since Captain Leonard Evan's licensure, he has performed 4 trips as a transport pilot. Captain Capel has also been called in from retirement to fill in. New York has advised that their two apprentices should be licensed by this time next year.

Public Comment(s)

Comment from Captain Richard Schoenlank, President Sandy Hook Pilots Association:

Captain Richard Schoenlank expressed his contentment regarding the change in plans for the Goethals Bridge project. He is happy that they will not include barges and expand the roadway sideways.

A New York pilot is currently training on the Hudson River, and will be licensed shortly to assist in their manning issues.

During the Meeting with IMTT representatives, the pilots discussed their concerns over large vessels utilizing the berth. They were assured that the proper studies have been done. There is a similar berth in San Francisco, and it seems to be working fine.

Sandy Hook had their 2015 elections. Captain Richard Schoenlank is the president. Captain John Oldmixon is the Vice President, and Captain Dan Foley will serve as the Secretary.

Comment from Captain Robert Flannery, President Metro Pilots Association:

Captain Robert Flannery informed the Commission of the new Captain of the Port Michael Daye. He has worked in the port previously and was great to work with.

There will be a Harbor Operations Meeting tomorrow. There is concern over recommended drafts. The pilots are being proactive and have been meeting with the Port Authority. They will also meet with the shipping companies to try to work together to come up with a solution that works for everyone.

During this past Sunday's black ice conditions, a pilot encountered a problem getting to the port. Captain Flannery presented a letter to the Commission that was issued to the pilots by Captain Gordon Loeb1 that gives pilots clearance during road closures.

Despite the letter, the local police securing the Bayonne and Goethals Bridges would not allow the pilot access. As a result, the pilot arrived 30 minutes late. Captain Flannery is going to meet with Captain Loeb1, but he would like the Commission to contact the local authorities to discuss the role and importance of state pilots. Ms. Stuckey will contact the Chiefs of Police of both cities to discuss this issue.

Captain Flannery expressed his concern over the 5mph speed restrictions. Ms. Stuckey reminded Captain Flannery that the Coast Guard indicated that they would not enforce the restrictions. Captain Flannery stated that the pilots want to see a notice rescinding the restrictions.

Comment from Captain Daniel Blair, President Metro Pilots Association added:

Captain Daniel Blair expressed concerns with the increase rates listed on the meeting agenda and stated Interports desire to see the proposal. Ms. Stuckey informed Captain Blair the rates are published in the Journal of Commerce. She also mentioned the NY Commission is holding public hearings on the rates. She will attend the January 27, 2015 hearing to comment on behalf of the Commission.

Committee Report

A. Investigation Committee:

- I. **MSC Rania** - February 2, 2014. The investigation was conducted by Captain Mark Clark. Ms. Stuckey gave the Commission a summary of the incident and the Investigator's Report. Based on the report, Ms. Stuckey recommended that the Commission find no fault on the part of either pilot and the incident be closed. She will also send a copy of the investigative report to the vessel owners.
- II. **Wanderer** - March 18, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- III. **CSAV Loconillia** - May 16, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.

- IV. **Port Richmond** - May 29, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- V. **STI Beryl** - June 14, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- VI. **Puccini** - August 18, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- VII. **Bremen Express** - October 3, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- VIII. **Hangin Newport** - October 4, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- IX. **Maersk Chicago** - October 21, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- X. **Hanjin Rio DeJanerio** - November 1, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- XI. **MSC Martina** - November 3, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- XII. **Rainbow Quest** - November 7, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- XIII. **Hyundai Glory** - December 9, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.

Old Business

- A. Masters on Cruise Vessels utilizing the Auto Pilot
Ms. Stuckey reported that New York has updated and recirculated their 1987 Auto Pilot policy. The two Commissions are still working together to come up with a joint policy. Ms. Stuckey is working with Captain Richard Schoenlank to draft a New Jersey Advisory. She feels that New Jersey should give their pilots some directions. Ms. Stuckey will have a draft advisory for the Commission to review at the February meeting.
- B. Intra-harbor Intermediate Rates
As discussed during the Executive Director's report, Ms. Stuckey will attend the Tuesday, January 27, 2015 public hearing to comment on behalf of the Commission.

Executive Session

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body such as The New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission may meet in closed session to discuss legal and personnel matters, and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to meet in closed session to discuss such matters.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Commission shall at this time meet in closed session to discuss such matters the substance of the closed session would be disclosed publicly only if it would not warrant an invasion of privacy or constitute a breach of the attorney client privilege.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner McEwing that the Commission goes into Executive Session.

All voted in favor.

The commission went into Executive Session at 10:40 AM.

Return to Public Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner McEwing that the Commission return to Public Session.

All voted in favor.

The Commission returned to Public Session at 11:21 AM.

Resolution #15-02 to Approve the Request to Upgrade Maritime Pilot - Captain Ronald S. Perry

A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Shisha to approve the Resolution #15-02 to upgrade Captain Ronald S. Perry.

All voted in favor.

Resolution #15-03 to Approve the Request to Upgrade Maritime Pilot - Captain Karen A. Basciano

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner McEwing to approve the Resolution #15-03 to upgrade Captain Karen A. Basciano.

All voted in favor.

Resolution #15-04 to Approve the Request to Upgrade Maritime Pilot - Captain Coleen M. Quinn

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner McEwing to approve the resolution #15-04 to upgrade Captain Coleen M. Quinn.

All voted in favor.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Shisha that the meeting be adjourned. All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 AM.